

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 9, 25, and 33-49, without prejudice, please amend Claim 1, and please add new Claims 50-68, as provided in the following Listing of Claims:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus,
comprising:

a processor, wherein the processor processes a request to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, information contained in a patient's healthcare record or a patient's healthcare file of a patient, wherein the processor determines whether an individual or entity is authorized to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in ~~the~~ a patient's healthcare record or ~~the~~ a patient's healthcare file, and further wherein the processor generates a notification report containing information regarding at least one of the individual or entity making the request, identification information regarding the individual or entity, and a time and date of the request, and further wherein the notification report contains information

regarding a reason for the request, and further wherein the notification report contains at least one of information regarding a nature of any change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in ~~the~~ a patient's healthcare record or the a patient's healthcare file, and information regarding a subject of a change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in a patient's healthcare record or the a patient's healthcare file; and

a transmitter, wherein the transmitter transmits the notification report to a patient communication device of the patient via, on, or over, a communication network, and further wherein the notification report is transmitted to the patient communication device at least one of during, concurrently with, at a same time as, and prior to a completion of, an at least one of an accessing, an obtaining, a changing, an altering, and a modifying, of the information contained in ~~the~~ a patient's healthcare record or the a patient's healthcare file by the individual or ~~user~~ entity, or at least one of during, concurrently with, at a same time as, and prior to a completion of, a processing of the request.

Claims 2-49. (Canceled)

Claim 50. (New) A computer-implemented method,
comprising:

processing a request by a person or an entity to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file of the individual or patient, with a processor;

generating a message containing information regarding at least one of the person or the entity making the request, identification information regarding the person or the entity making the request, and a time and date of the request, and further wherein the message contains at least one of information regarding a reason for the request, information regarding a nature of a change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, and information regarding a subject of a change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file; and

transmitting the message to a communication device of the individual or patient via, on, or over, a communication network, wherein the message is transmitted to the communication device of the individual or patient at least one of during, concurrently with, at a same time as, and prior to a completion of, an at least one of an accessing, an obtaining, a changing, an altering, and a modifying, of the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file by the person or the entity, or at least one of during, concurrently with, at a same time as, and prior to a completion of, a processing of the request to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file.

Claim 51. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

receiving a response to the message, wherein the response to the message is transmitted from the communication device of the individual or patient, and further wherein the response to the message contains information for terminating or denying at least one of an accessing, an obtaining, a

changing, an altering, and a modifying, of the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file; and

terminating or denying the request to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file.

Claim 52. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

receiving information regarding an examination finding or a symptom, wherein the information regarding an examination finding or a symptom is transmitted from a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient;

at least one of storing and processing the information regarding an examination finding or a symptom; and

updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's

healthcare file to include the information regarding an examination finding or a symptom.

Claim 53. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 52, wherein the information regarding an examination finding or a symptom contains information obtained with or by at least one of a heart rate monitor or measurement device, a thermometer, a blood pressure monitor or measurement device, a blood analysis device or machine, a respiration monitoring or measurement device, a dialysis machine, an electrocardiograph (EKG) machine or device, an electrocephalograph (EEG) machine or device, an electromyograph (EMG) machine or device, a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) machine or device, an X-ray machine or device, a thermal imaging machine or device, a laparoscopic device, an arthroscopic device, a catheter device, a sonogram imaging device, a sonograph device, an ultrasound imaging device, an ultrasound measurement device, a CAT SCAN device, a mammogram device, a carbon dioxide detection or measurement device, a carbon monoxide detection or measurement device, a transvascular impedance measurement or monitoring device, an ultrasonic imaging device, a bone conduction device, a brain function scan analyzer device, a fetal heart rate measurement, monitoring, or probing, device, an endotracheal cardiac monitoring device, a surgical instrument,

a blood oxygen detection device, an esophageal probing device, a sphygmomanometer, a differential doppler device, a camera probing device, and a microscopic camera probing device.

Claim 54. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 52, further comprising:

performing a diagnostic evaluation of the individual or patient using the information regarding an examination finding or a symptom;

generating a second message in response to the diagnostic evaluation, wherein the second message contains a diagnosis or a list of possible diagnoses;

transmitting the second message to the computer or communication device associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient or to a second computer or second communication device associated with the healthcare provider of the individual or patient; and

updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's

healthcare file to include information contained in the second message.

Claim 55. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 54, further comprising:

generating a third message in response to the diagnostic evaluation, wherein the third message contains information regarding a treatment or a treatment plan corresponding to the diagnosis or the list of possible diagnoses;

transmitting the third message to the computer or communication device associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient or to a second computer or second communication device associated with the healthcare provider of the individual or patient; and

updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file to include information contained in the third message.

Claim 56. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

receiving information regarding a treatment to be administered to the individual or patient or a procedure to be performed on the individual or patient, wherein the information regarding a treatment to be administered to the individual or patient or a procedure to be performed on the individual or patient is transmitted from a computer or communication device located at least one of at a healthcare facility, at a location of a treatment, and at a location of a procedure;

processing the information regarding a treatment to be administered to the individual or patient or a procedure to be performed on the individual or patient using the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file;

determining whether or not the treatment to be administered to the individual or patient or the procedure to be performed on the individual or patient is correct;

generating a second message containing information regarding whether or not the treatment to be administered to the individual or patient or the procedure to be performed on the individual or patient is correct, and, if the treatment to be administered to the individual or patient or the procedure to be performed on the individual or patient is determined to be not correct, the second message contains information regarding a correct treatment or a correct procedure; and

transmitting the second message to the computer or communication device located at least one of at a healthcare facility, at a location of a treatment, and at a location of a procedure.

Claim 57. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

determining whether a diagnosis is appropriate or valid or determining whether a treatment or treatment plan corresponding to a diagnosis is appropriate or valid;

generating a second message containing information regarding whether a diagnosis is appropriate or valid or

whether a treatment or treatment plan corresponding to a diagnosis is appropriate or valid; and

transmitting the second message to a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare payer or a healthcare insurance provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 58. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, wherein the communication device of the individual or patient is a wireless device, and further wherein the message is transmitted to the communication device of the individual or patient via, on, or over, at least one of the Internet, the World Wide Web, and a wireless communication network.

Claim 59. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

transmitting the message to a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 60. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

transmitting the message to a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare payer or a healthcare insurance provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 61. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

generating a second message containing information regarding an occurrence of an admitting of the individual or patient to a hospital or a healthcare facility or containing information regarding a diagnosis regarding the individual or patient; and

transmitting the second message to a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 62. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

generating a second message containing information regarding an occurrence of an admitting of the individual or patient to a hospital or a healthcare facility; and

transmitting the second message to a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare payer or a healthcare insurance provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 63. (New) The computer-implemented method of Claim 50, further comprising:

generating a second message containing information regarding an insurance claim for submission to a healthcare payer or a healthcare insurance provider of the individual or patient, wherein the second message is automatically generated in response to an updating of the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file; and

transmitting the second message to a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare payer or a healthcare insurance provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 64. (New) The computer-implemented of Claim 50, wherein the the message contains information regarding the person or the entity making the request, a time and date of the request, a reason for the request, and at least one of information regarding a nature of a change, alteration, or

modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file and information regarding a subject of a change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file.

Claim 65. (New) The computer-implemented of Claim 50, further comprising:

receiving and storing information for updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, wherein the information for updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file is transmitted from the communication device or from a second communication used by the individual or patient.

Claim 66. (New) The computer-implemented of Claim 50, further comprising:

receiving and storing information for updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, wherein the information for updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file is transmitted from a communication device or a computer associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient; and

updating the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file.

Claim 67. (New) The computer-implemented of Claim 50, further comprising:

generating an activity report containing information regarding at least one of an accessing, an obtaining, a changing, an altering, and a modifying, of the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, during a time period, wherein the activity report is generated automatically or in response to a request to receive an activity report; and

transmitting the activity report to at least one of the communication device, a second communication device or a computer associated with the individual or patient, a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare provider of the individual or patient, and a computer or communication device associated with a healthcare payer or a healthcare insurance provider of the individual or patient.

Claim 68. (New) A computer-implemented method, comprising:

receiving information regarding a restriction or limitation regarding an ability of a person or an entity to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, wherein the restriction or limitation contains information regarding at least one of a healthcare provider, a healthcare payer, a healthcare insurance provider, and an authorized entity, and information regarding a designated purpose for allowing each of the at least one of a healthcare provider, a healthcare payer, a healthcare insurance provider, and an authorized entity, to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an

individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, wherein the designated purpose is at least one of to perform a diagnosis, to perform a diagnosis for a certain ailment, illness, or symptom, to provide a second opinion, to verify or disprove a condition or a pre-existing condition, to submit an insurance claim, and to process an insurance claim;

storing the information regarding a restriction or limitation regarding an ability of a person or an entity to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file;

processing a request by a person or an entity to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, with a processor;

determining, using the information regarding the restriction or limitation, whether the person or the entity is allowed or authorized to at least one of access, obtain,

change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file;

generating a message containing information regarding at least one of the person or the entity making the request, identification information regarding the person or the entity making the request, and a time and date of the request, and further wherein the message contains at least one of information regarding a reason for the request, information regarding a nature of a change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file, and information regarding a subject of a change, alteration, or modification, sought to be made or made to the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file; and

transmitting the message to a communication device of the individual or patient via, on, or over, a communication network, wherein the message is transmitted to the communication device of the individual or patient at least one of during, concurrently with, at a same time as, and prior to

a completion of, an at least one of an accessing, an obtaining, a changing, an altering, and a modifying, of the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file by the person or the entity, or at least one of during, concurrently with, at a same time as, and prior to a completion of, a processing of the request to at least one of access, obtain, change, alter, and modify, the information contained in an individual's or patient's healthcare record or an individual's or patient's healthcare file.